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BOROUGH OF BACUP

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

OF THE

BOROUGH OF BACUP

1958

H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

1958 - 1959

HIS WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR J. B. WALLEY, J.P.

(ex-officio)

CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN A. LORD, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR T. C. LAW.

COMMITTEE:

Alderman J. Edge, J.P.
Alderman W. Marshall, J.P.
Alderman J. H. Hargreaves
Alderman Mrs. A. Rhodes
Councillor J. Ireland
Councillor R. Davies
Councillor T. E. East
Councillor A. P. Beaumont
Councillor J. Rushton
Councillor S. G. Pollard
Councillor R. Taylor, J.P.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health	G. Fyfe, M.B., Ch.B.,D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	R. Haworth, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	G. R. Millington, M.A.P.H.I. (31.10.1958)
Pupil Public Health Inspectors	E. Sutcliffe D. B. Shalliker
Clerk	Mrs. M. Taylor

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Stubbylee Hall,

BACUP,

Lancs.

July, 1959.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Bacup.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present, for your information, my report for the year 1958. The lay-out is unchanged. I would like to direct your attention to three things which are of great concern at the present time to this Health Department, as to many others. These are clean food, clean air and good housing. The last two are mentioned without comment for they have been the subjects of many discussions in Committee and elsewhere. I have commented on clean food, or to be more accurate, on food poisoning in Section II of my report.

Since this is the last report which I shall present to this Authority I cannot let the occasion pass without expressing my sincere thanks to all who have helped me during my period of Office, in particular my thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and last, but not least, to Mr. Haworth and the Staff of the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

G. FYFE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

VITAL STATISTICS

Once again a fall in the infant mortality rate is recorded. In 1957 this was 14 and in 1958 it was 9.8. I would refer Members once again to the quinquennial table (Table V). The last figure quoted there for infant mortality (1950 - 1954) was 30. The corresponding figure for the years 1954-1958 is 24.8. This is very satisfactory although it must be mentioned that the figure for England and Wales is 22.5.

The principal causes of death in the general population were again Cardiovascular disease (57%), Cancer (11%) and Respiratory Disease (8%) including, in particular, Bronchitis. This situation is now taken for granted and there is little I can add to what is already known and to what has already been said on this subject.

I would remind you that the vital statistics cannot reflect the whole picture of the public health. There is a great deal of morbidity of mind and body which cannot be expressed in statistical terms. Adolescent maladjustments, loneliness in the elderly and stress and anxiety at any age cannot be reduced to figures. Perhaps this is fortunate, provided that sight is not lost of their existence.

SECTION II

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Other than cases of tuberculosis the notification of infectious diseases for 1958 were limited to Measles 99, Whooping Cough 23 and Acute Pneumonia 6.

Poliomyelitis: No cases were notified during the year. The aspect of most immediate concern is, of course, vaccination against this disease. Confidence in this means of protection is steadily increasing and considerable progress has been made. The vaccinations carried out have proved entirely satisfactory. It is appreciated that many people still require to be protected against Poliomyelitis, and with the vaccine being more readily available, it has been found possible to extend the age groups to whom it may be given, so as to include the age group ranging from 16-25 years. In addition, added facilities have been arranged whereby people requiring vaccination may attend either at their own general practitioner, at the Bacup Clinic, or at the factory sessions which have been specially arranged so as to cause a minimum of inconvenience, and to facilitate the service where a sufficient number of persons are employed.

Food Poisoning and Bacillary Dysentery: I want to comment again on the absence of notifications of these illnesses. The amount of food poisoning and dysentery are indications of the hygiene standards in a community and in the public appreciation or lack of appreciation of the importance of hygiene. If the number of notifications was true then we could congratulate ourselves most heartily. Unfortunately it is not true, I think because cases are not notified or because some of those who are ill did nothing about it. The concept of a "chill" and the mistaken belief in its inavoidability continues. In the absence of some serious organic disease persistent diarrhoea very rarely occurs in the absence of infection by germs. So far as food poisoning is concerned the food hygiene regulations supply part of the answer. They cannot, of course, obviate bad food handling practice in the home. So far as dysentery is concerned, spread is less likely through food and drink than it is through personal contact and the answer is to be found in the use of the wash basin and in the cleanliness of the toilet rather than in the kitchen. These diseases are endemic in this country and the sooner this fact is appreciated by all concerned the better it will be.

SECTION III

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

The services to which this section relates are the primary responsibility of Divisional Health Committee No. 13, on which the Bacup Borough Council is represented. It would be wrong to consider the work of these two authorities separately and in fact only the closest integration of the services provided by the Borough on the one hand and the County Council on the other can achieve any outstanding measure of success. I have already referred to this aspect in my introductory letter.

The local health services include the following, some of which are the subject of later comment.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

- ante-natal and post-natal clinics
- child welfare clinics
- day nurseries and child minders
- work with problem families

Midwifery
Home Nursing
Health Visiting
Immunisation and Vaccination
Ambulance Service
Prevention Care and After-Care

- health education
- convalescence
- tuberculosis control
- mental health

Home Help Service
Welfare Services

Ante-natal clinics: These provide one means whereby perinatal and infant mortality may be reduced. The aim is to provide a service complementary to that provided by general practitioners and hospital clinics, so that constant advice and supervision is available and the early detection of abnormalities is made more likely. It is the wish of the clinic staff to instruct women in such matters as health during pregnancy, childbirth and the care of the new-born. This has been made difficult by the present premises used as a clinic. More pleasant and suitable premises will I hope soon be available. While attendances have been good, it will give much satisfaction if the new clinic comes to be regarded as a place with much to offer to all expectant mothers regardless of what other arrangements have concurrently been made.

Child Welfare clinics: The number of attendances was again increased and reached the 4751 mark, which is the highest on record. The increased use of the clinic by children in the 1 - 2 age group was well maintained, but the fall off in the 2 - 4 age group in 1957 was fully recovered, and in fact shows considerable increase in this group. I am anxious to increase the attendance by older children if only to be satisfied that their mothers and fathers are still sufficiently interested in their future and well-being and development to wish to seek advice and to discuss problems which must constantly arise at such a time.

Health visiting: I had hoped that the shortage of health visitors so far as it affected Bacup had been overcome. Unfortunately this has not been possible, as although the establishment has been increased to four health visitors, the making of appointments has not been possible as yet, and the number of visitors acting remains at three. Four visitors are necessary for the amount of work required to be done, and it is hoped that this temporary shortage of staff can be overcome in order that a fuller service can be given, as the present shortage confines our efforts largely to immediate essentials.

Vaccination and Immunisation: This has already been mentioned in Section II. I would add here that the number of children who received Diphtheria Immunisation was hardly maintained, and the number under the age of one year who were protected showed a slight decrease on figures for the previous year. In recent years the numbers have been:

	0 - 15	0 - 1
1954	283	55 (19%)
1955	211	47 (22%)
1956	215	101 (47%)
1957	208	138 (66%)
1958	205	123 (62%)

Home Help Service: It is still extremely difficult to increase the amount of home help service provided due to the difficulty in recruiting adequate staff. The figures, however, show a slight increase in the number of families assisted, the total number being 150 against 134 in the year 1957. Again, the type of case receiving home help service was confined almost wholely to chronic sickness or old age, and all but five were such cases. I am certain that such proportions as these were not the original intention of the scheme, and I am equally convinced that many "younger families" could profit by this type of help if only for a few days at a time.

Detailed information about sessions held at Bacup Clinic and about divisional staff together with statistics relating to the services mentioned in this section will be found in Appendix C (pages 15 - 18).

APPENDIX A

VITAL STATISTICS AND CAUSES OF DEATH

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS - 1958.

Area (Acres)	6,121
Population (Estimated mid-1958)	17,990
Population (Census 1951)	18,374
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	5,964
Number of Inhabited Houses (1958)	6,693
Rateable Value	£132,692
Sum represented by a penny rate	£511

	Male	Female	Total	
LIVE BIRTHS				
Legitimate	139	149	288	
Illegitimate	13	6	19	Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population ... 17.1 (16.3)
	152	155	307	
STILLBIRTHS	5	1	6	Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ... 19.2 (39)
DEATHS	100	125	225	Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population ... 12.5 (15.0)

DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year of age :-

Male	Female	Total
1	2	3

Death rate of infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	9.8 (14)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	6.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	52.5

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DISEASES

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	129	6.6
Cancer	25	1.4
Tuberculosis	2	.11
Bronchitis	10	.55
Other Respiratory Diseases	6	.33

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the year 1957.

TABLE II

REGISTER GENERAL'S RETURN
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

CAUSES OF DEATH

GROUP CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	0	2
Tuberculosis other forms	0	0	0
Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	6	13
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	22	38
Coronary disease, angina	13	11	24
Hypertension with heart disease	0	6	6
Other heart diseases	17	30	47
Other circulatory diseases	6	8	14
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	5	5	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	0	2
Hyperplasia of prostrate	3	0	3
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	12	25
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	4	4	8
Suicide	2	3	5
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
ALL CAUSES	100	125	225

TABLE III

INFANTILE MORTALITY - 1958

Cause of death	Under 1 month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total Under 1 year
Pneumonia (Broncho)	1												1
Congenital heart disease													0
Gross prematurity	1												1
Cerebral haemorrhage													0
Atelectasis	1												1
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

TABLE IV

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY - 1958

Cause of death	Under 1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 to 13 days	14 to 20 days	21 to 25 days	Total
Gross prematurity		1								1
Cerebral haemorrhage										0
Atelectasis	1									1
Broncho Pneumonia									1	1
	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3

TABLE V

BACUP M.B. VITAL STATISTICS

MEAN RATES FOR THE PAST FIFTY YEARS

MEAN OF 5 YEARS	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION				MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE	
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)	Rates of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	
							Bacup	Administrative County
1900-1904	23.5	17.6	0.96	0.65	-	-	146	119
1905-1909	21.3	15.4	0.82	0.48	-	-	119	98
1910-1914	19.1	16.3	0.95	0.69	-	-	112	97
1915-1919	14.4	16.9	0.79	1.11	6.32	-	109	89
1920-1924	19.2	14.2	0.69	1.02	4.34	-	84	70
1925-1929	15.7	16.1	0.61	1.27	6.74	-	88	66
1930-1934	14.6	14.2	0.56	1.15	3.87	3.70	61	61
1935-1939	13.2	15.5	0.64	1.91	6.12	5.74	61	52
1940-1944	14.9	14.8	0.46	1.93	2.24	2.15	46	46
1945-1949	18.6	14.1	0.40	1.70	2.41	2.34	45	41
1950-1954	16.18	14.98	0.16	2.28	1.44	1.41	30	32
Year 1955	16.1	14.5	0.05	2.08	NIL	NIL	27	24
Year 1956	16.3	15.3	0.21	2.08	NIL	NIL	40	23
Year 1957	16.3	15.0	0.17	2.10	3.4	3.26	14	23
Year 1958	17.1	12.5	0.11	1.39	NIL	NIL	9.8	23

APPENDIX B

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE VI

Cases notified and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1958.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10-15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-65	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7	5	1	-	2	-	-	-
	12		1		2		0	

TABLE VII

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

	NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED												
	Total Cases all Ages	AGE PERIODS - YEARS											
		Un'r 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	99	3	10	17	16	12	40	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	23	5	3	4	3	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcol Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio-myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastro Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	128	8	13	22	19	14	46	1	1	-	1	1	2

APPENDIX C

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Clinic Sessions at the School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.

	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.
Minor Ailments	9-10.30a.m.	9-10.30a.m.	9-10.30a.m.	9-10.30a.m.	9-10.30a.m.
Eye Clinic	2-4 p.m. (every second week only)	-	-	-	-
Dental Clinic	9-12 noon	9-12 noon	-	9-12 noon	9-12 noon
Immunisation & Vaccination	-	-	10.30 a.m.	-	-
Child Welfare	-	-	2-4 p.m.	-	-
Ante-natal & Post natal Clinics	-	-	-	-	2-4 p.m.

Divisional Health Staff - Bacup Area.

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer	Dr. M. A. Feeny, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup, Tel. Bacup 65.
Dental Officer	J. Barcroft, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.
Health Visitors and School Nurses	Miss D. Guest. Miss M. Dent. Miss M. Hoyle.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	Mrs. M. E. Schofield, Rossendale General Hospital, Tel. Ross. 820.
District Nurses	Miss D. L. Cummings, 33, Dale Street. Miss P. M. John, " " " Tel. Bacup 297. Mrs. J. Midgley, Belgrave House, Bankside Lane, Bacup.
Domiciliary Midwives	Miss D. M. Fox, 91, Bankside Lane. Mrs. M. Nicholson, 93, Bankside Lane. Tel. Bacup 349. Tel. Bacup 339.
Warden of Olive Hostel for Old People	Miss Sherry. Tel. Bacup 322.
Bacup Ambulance Station	Station Officer, J. A. Ashforth, Commercial St. Stacksteads. Tel. Bacup 728.
Home Help Organiser	Miss I. Crawford, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231.
Divisional Welfare Officer	Mr. J. H. Todd, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale.
Duly Authorised Officer	Mr. E. B. Williams, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale.
Mental Health Worker	Miss J. R. Lambert, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale.

TABLE VIII

ATTENDANCES AT BACUP ANTE NATAL CLINIC DURING 1958.

Number of sessions during year	Number of individual women attending during year	Number of attendances at sessions conducted by :-			Total
		Consultants	A.D.M.O'S	Midwives, Health Visitors, etc.	
49	156	-	290	259	549

TABLE IX

WORK CARRIED OUT BY
L.C.C. MIDWIVES IN BACUP AREA DURING 1958.

No. of Mid-wives	Total live and still births and miscarriages attended		Cases in which analgesia administered	Visits Paid				Total
	As Midwife	As Maternity Nurse		Ante-natal	Deli-very	Puer-perium	Post-natal	
2	120	8	91	440	282	2,257	-	2,979

TABLE X

ATTENDANCES AT BACUP CHILD WELFARE CENTRE
ALL SESSIONS (INCLUDING DOCTOR'S SESSIONS)

Year	No. of sessions during year	Number of individual children attending at ages				Number of attendances by children at ages			Total
		Under 1 Year	1-2 years	2-4 years	Total	Under 1 year	1-2 year	2-4 years	
1954	52	149	154	190	493	2677	584	583	3844
1955	51	168	143	214	525	2411	472	638	3521
1956	51	164	137	206	507	2346	482	701	3529
1957	51	165	161	192	518	2868	577	558	4003
1958	52	191	160	231	582	3174	742	835	4751

TABLE XI

WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS IN BACUP

Year	Number of individual visits	Number of homes visited	Number of school clinics attended	Number of M. & C.W. sessions attended	Number of other sessions attended
1954	5392	1389	186	123	223
1955	5547	1307	201	140	134
1956	3501	1036	323	162	65
1957	4418	1168	289	166	54
1958	7296	1079	267	138	171

TABLE XII

NUMBER OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation										Reinforcement injections			
Year	Age at final injection (years)									Age group			
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	Total under 5	5-	10-	Total 5-14	0-	5-	10-	Total 0-14 yrs.
1954	55	87	65	11	15	233	29	21	50	64	15	385	464
1955	47	57	37	16	10	167	38	6	44	51	165	138	354
1956	101	48	21	6	8	184	20	11	31	64	215	149	428
1957	138	33	11	1	5	188	14	6	20	42	164	108	314
1958	128	24	4	1	4	161	36	8	44	43	190	89	322

TABLE XIII

NUMBER OF SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

PRIMARY VACCINATIONS						RE-VACCINATIONS				
	Age in years					Age in years				
Year	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total
1954	35	13	1	9	58	-	-	-	27	27
1955	56	22	3	1	82	-	-	1	39	40
1956	44	17	15	3	79	-	-	-	43	43
1957	51	13	2	8	74	-	1	4	53	58
1958	80	13	1	3	97	3	1	-	10	14

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TABLE XIV

WORK CARRIED OUT BY DISTRICT NURSES IN BACUP, 1958.

On Books 31st Dec. 1937	Cases attended		Visits paid			Total
	New cases attended 1958	Cases completed 1958	Remaining on books 31st Dec. 1958	Routine	Casual	
107	289	299	97	12,815	128	12,943

TABLE XV

NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED BY HOME HELPS IN BACUP, 1958.

Type of Case	No.
Confinement at home	3
Confinement away from home	-
Tuberculosis	2
Chronic Sickness	115
Old Age and Infirmity	30
Total	150

TABLE XVI

WORK DONE BY THE STACKSTEADS (BACUP) AMBULANCE STATION 1958

No. of Vehicles		Cases removed during 1958 and mileage involved			
Ambulances	Cars	Emergency cases	Non-Emergency cases	Total	
				Cases	Mileage
6	3	1,242	23,599	24,841	221,525

Public Health Department,

Stubbylee Hall,

BACUP.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Bacup.

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the report on the sanitary inspection and environmental conditions within the Borough for the year 1958.

The progress with slum clearance again made a step forward, and sites were cleared in the Brandwood Road, Heys Buildings, High Street, Shepherd's View and Bankside Lane areas, and a considerable number of Closing Orders were made. In addition, further schemes were envisaged and representations made with regard to the clearance of further sites, and whilst these have not yet been completed, the schemes are in an advanced stage, and progress should shortly be evident. The difficult and hilly nature of the sites upon which the older houses are built again gave the Council considerable trouble due to the expensive nature of proper demolition so as to leave the cleared sites in a satisfactory condition. I am sure, however, that everyone concerned would still wish to see the general standard of housing conditions within the Borough improved as quickly as possible.

The service given with regard to the inspection of meat and other foods was maintained throughout the year as in the past, and I am pleased to be able to report that all the animals slaughtered within the Borough were again inspected and appropriate action taken.

Many routine inspections of the various premises within the town were carried out and improvements effected with regard to the handling and sale of food and the many miscellaneous ancillary trades.

Some effort was devoted to the question of smoke abatement, in particular with regard to the emissions from industrial furnaces, and several factories which previously emitted black smoke have now installed modern plant with resultant beneficial effects.

Staff difficulties in the department again caused considerable concern due to the national shortage of inspectors, and as yet it has been found impossible to fill the vacancy which occurred during the year. The staff of the Health Department have again given loyal and willing service, and my thanks are due to them for the help given during a most difficult period. I am grateful for the guidance and advice given by the Medical Officer of Health, and take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their interest and support throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

R. HAWORTH.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION IV

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Social Conditions

Chief Occupations. The shoe and slipper trade and cotton weaving and spinning provide the chief industry in the town which is mainly industrial in character. There is some light engineering, stone quarrying and coal mining which also gives employment to a number of people in the district and in addition a number of mills which manufacture felted materials.

The country is hilly and there are many scattered hill farms with small dairy herds.

(A) SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

Water Supply

The main supply of water to the town is satisfactory, being provided by the Borough of Bacup Water Undertaking and a large percentage of the domestic properties enjoy a supply of water which is wholly sufficient and excellent in quality.

The whole of the water supplied by this undertaking is filtered and chlorinated and is collected from the upland surface gathering ground and stored in three main reservoirs at Cragg, Cowpe and Sheephouse.

Twenty three samples of the town's water were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination, and twenty three were satisfactory.

Twenty four samples were submitted for chemical analysis and twenty four proved satisfactory.

The number of dwellinghouses supplied from the public mains is 6637.

River and Streams

The Mersey River Board is the controlling authority for the main river in the Borough and the Local Authority is responsible for the streams and the portion of the Irwell which joins on to the main river.

The River Irwell is used in connection with the Local Industries and widely used for trade effluents.

Public Cleansing

The household refuse collection is maintained on a weekly basis from all houses in the town, and approximately 7,000 dustbins are emptied weekly by the three side loading freighters each manned by a driver and four loaders.

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at the two tips at Sharneyford and Blackwood, and the Council have in operation a salvage scheme.

Street cleansing is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, and gully emptying is done by modern mechanical means.

One hundred and thirteen pail closets are emptied each week.

Closet Accommodation

The closet accommodation in the Borough consists mainly of fresh water closets, there being approximately 4,694 of these, and gradual abolition of the waste water closets is encouraged by the grants made by the Health Committee in respect of conversions. Details of the closets other than fresh water closets are given in Table XVIII, Appendix D.

Many of the back-to-back type houses have joint W.C., accommodation and this type of house would be greatly improved if separate indoor sanitary accommodation could be provided.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Hydrogen Cyanide is used in connection with the disinfestation of household goods when transfers are made from infested property to Council houses, and others are treated with D.D.T. Solution and Spray.

These methods proved effectively particularly if a follow up spraying was performed and the advice given to tenants was acted upon.

Atmospheric Pollution

Little trouble was experienced during the year by atmospheric pollution from smoke.

Many of the local industries are using electrically driven machinery to a great extent and it would seem that this is already having its effect on the amount of atmospheric pollution by smoke from steam raising plants. Much still remains to be done with regard to the atmospheric pollution caused by domestic chimneys and smokeless fuels and improvement in the design of domestic fireplaces will no doubt aid progress in this direction.

Rag Flock

One licence was issued in respect of premises where Rag Flock is stored, whilst premises formerly used for the manufacture of Rag Flock was again not used.

The firm storing Rag Flock submitted many samples on their own account with satisfactory results.

Rodent Control

This work is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Council's sewers were treated on two occasions.

During the first treatment, carried out in May, 277 manholes were treated and 51 showed a prebait take, and as a result 117 poison baits were laid.

The second maintenance treatment carried out in November, necessitated the treatment of 155 manholes and 14 showed a prebait take.

In addition to this 15 business premises, 69 dwellinghouses and 4 local authority properties were treated.

Swimming Baths

The Council own and administer the Public Baths which are situated in the centre of the town.

The new modern filtration and chlorination plant which was installed

during 1950 has led to greatly improved conditions from a public health point of view, and the public no doubt have now excellent conditions for bathing.

Factories

The sanitary accommodation in most of the factories within the district is reasonable in standard as more firms are realising the necessity of modern conveniences and recognise this as one of the necessities for attracting labour.

Table XIX, Appendix D gives a summary of the inspections made and details of the results.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Many of the owners of small cottage property still complain bitterly that the rents received do not allow for the increased cost of building materials and labour, and the efforts required to enforce statutory notices and informal notices requiring repairs, remains a major problem in the department.

The statement in Table XVII, Appendix D, shows the number and nature of the inspections made.

(B) HOUSING

The hilly nature of the district has led in the past to the building of many back-to-back, back-to-land and basement dwellings, and the prevalence of such a large propertion of these types of houses, which to-day cannot generally speaking be regarded as of a satisfactory standard, has created a difficult problem. This problem is one which requires constant attention, and whilst every endeavour is made to keep the old houses weatherproof, and in a reasonable state of repair, the work done is often not sufficient to render the old houses in all respects fit for habitation. In addition, the lack of amenities in numerous back-to-back houses is a matter of serious concern.

The Council proceeded with the building of new houses, 14 being completed by the Local Authority and more houses will shortly be ready for occupation.

It is difficult to assess the extent of overcrowding in the Borough in the absence of a proper survey, but it is known that some overcrowding exists.

Table XX, Appendix D, gives details of the new houses provided and also the action taken with regard to unfit dwellinghouses.

The Health Committee saw fit to make Closing Orders in respect of houses which were unfit for habitation and are, therefore, getting rid of the worst living conditions in the Borough. In addition a number of Clearance Areas were declared and the properties demolished, and more areas are at present under consideration.

(C) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

Milk Supply

The responsibility for the supervision of farms and the production of milk having passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the main duty of the Local Authority was in connection with distributors of milk, and the registration of milk distributors, dairies or milk shops.

Food Hygiene

Routine visits were made during the year to the premises in the Borough where ice cream is manufactured and the 71 premises where ice cream is sold by retail only.

The bulk of the ice cream which is sold in the town is manufactured by persons who have premises outside the Borough and little difficulty was experienced with this commodity. Much of the ice cream sold is now prepacked.

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year and details of the food condemned and surrendered are given in Table XXII, Appendix D.

Slaughterhouses.

The Local Authority granted licences in respect of three slaughterhouses within the Borough during 1958, and the three slaughterhouses now appear to be operating satisfactorily.

Meat Inspection

The operation of the three slaughterhouses above mentioned thrust a heavy burden on the Health Committee and the staff of the Health Department, as it is felt that 100% of the animals slaughtered should be inspected, and in addition the Committee feel that this inspection must be carried out at the time of slaughter in order to be effective.

Every endeavour, therefore, has been made to do this, and details of the animals slaughtered and the offals and meat condemned will be found in Table XXIII.

(D) GENERAL

Petroleum Acts and (Carbide of Calcium) Order

The licensing of petroleum stores is a duty carried out by the Health Committee and 51 licences are at present in operation for the storage of petroleum spirit or mixture.

Two persons are licenced to keep carbide of calcium.

Hackney Carriages and Driving Licences

During the year 14 Hackney Carriage Licences were issued and 9 licences to drive Hackney Carriages.

Game Dealers Licences

Three licences to deal in game were renewed and issued.

Old Metal Dealers

One licence was issued to dealers in old metal.

APPENDIX D

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLE XVII

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES

Total houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	210
Total number of inspections made	225
Housing (Consolidation) Regulations	110
Visits after Infectious Diseases	4
Number of houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit	210
Defects found	161
Defects remedied	89
Notices served (Preliminary)	117
Re-inspections re notices served	205
Visits to houses re Closing Orders	16
Visits to houses re Clearance Areas	122
Visits to houses re Demolition of Clearance Areas	195

(2) PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS

Offensive Trades	3
Markets	1

(3) FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Factories	12

(4) MISCELLANEOUS

Rats and mice destruction	103
Drainage	89
Colour tests applied to drains	81
Visits re private water supplies	4
Visits re Public water supply	6
Food inspections	19
Petroleum stores visited	61
Visits re storage of Petroleum Licences	16
Public mortuary	21
Public sanitary conveniences	71
Visits re conversion to closets	23
Disinfestation of premises	17
Verminous premises	6
Interviews with owners	307
Cleansing visits	557
Old metal dealers	2
Aged and infirm people	42
Hackney Carriages	5
Milk shops	13
Housing applications	379
Visits re slaughterhouses	653
Slaughtermen's licences	29
Visits re Food Hygiene Regulations	57
Visits re improvement grants	30
Pet animals act	9
Visits re national assistance act	4
Visits re game dealers	2
Smoke observations	14
Visits to boiler houses	12
Miscellaneous visits	641

TABLE XVIII

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Type of closet	Number in 1956	Number in 1957	Converted 1958	Number at end of 1958
Pail Closets	115	114	2	112
Waste Water Closets	326	310	10	300
Privy Middens	3	3	0	3
Total number of closets excluding fresh water closets	444	457	12	412

TABLE XIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 can be enforced by Local Authorities	20	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	157	4	1	0
	177	4	1	0

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	3	-	1	-

HOUSING STATISTICS

TABLE XX

(a) NUMBER OF NEW DWELLINGS PROVIDED IN BACUP DURING 1958.

(1) By the Borough of Bacup	14
(2) By other bodies and persons	0
	14

(b) UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	210
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	225
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	110
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	110
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	110
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation	100

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	117

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act :-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	49
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices :-	
(a) By owners	41
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	8

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1)	Number of tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	16
(2)	Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	0

4. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV - Overcrowding :-

A.	Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
B. (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases (exact details of overcrowding - not known)	0

5. Housing Act, 1949 :-

(1)	Number of schemes submitted :-	
	(a) By private individuals	32
	(b) By Local Authority to the Ministry	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses affected	31

B.	(1)	Number of schemes finally approved	23
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses affected	23
	(3)	Number of additional separate dwellings provided	0

MILK SUPPLY

TABLE XXI

Supplementary Licences for Distribution of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	8
Licences issued to Retail Distributors of "Pasteurised" Milk	5
Licences Issued to Retail Distributors of "Sterilised" Milk	77

TABLE XXII

UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED - 1958.

Chicken	1 tin
Chicken Fillets	15 tins
Spam	2 tins
Chopped Pork	5 tins
Minced Beef Loaf	2 tins
Ham	20 tins
Luncheon Meat	28 tins
Corned Beef	8 tins
Tongue	6 tins
Stewed Steak	42 tins
Tuna Fish	4 tins
Sild-in-Tomato	6 tins
Salmon	15 tins
Sausages	1 tin
Pilchards	10 tins
Tomatoes	41 tins
Carrots	11 tins
Soup	27 tins
Beans	28 tins
Peas	111 tins
Apricots	8 tins
Apples	3 tins
Tomato Juice	1 tin
Fruit Cocktail	21 tins
Pineapples	30 tins
Pears	55 tins
Oranges	23 tins
Peaches	61 tins
Raspberries	47 tins
Strawberries	35 tins
Prunes	2 tins
Gooseberries	1 tin
Grapefruit	12 tins
Evaporated Milk	46 tins
Coffee	7 tins
Rice	42 tins
Miscellaneous foodstuffs	42 tins
Marmalade	3 tins
Cheese	23 packets
New Potatoes	24 boxes
Australian Pears	1 case
Pickles	1 jar
Jelly	1 packet
TOTAL ARTICLES	872

TABLE XXIII

Details of animals slaughtered and meat and offals condemned.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

Bulls	Steers	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
4	263	181	290	22	2629	293	3682

DETAILS OF OFFAL CONDEMNED

Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Skirts	Spleens	Stomachs
24	39	6	166	1	3	4

Udders	Intestines	Fats	Plucks	Kidneys	Feet	Tails
5	5	6	8	5	1	3

CARCASE MEAT CONDEMNED

Whole Carcase Beef	...	2
Part Carcase Beef	...	3
Whole Carcase Pork	...	1
Part Carcase Mutton	...	2

Details of animals inspected and condemned :-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number of animals killed	557	181	22	2629	293
Number inspected	557	181	22	2629	293
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	37	22	-	133	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	6.65%	12.15%	0%	5.06%	2.05%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	21	18	-	-	9
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.00%	9.99%	0%	0%	3.07%